

Fw: Area Wide EIS -- epa contact & phosphate news -- (UNCLASSIFIED)

Brad Jackson to: Carol Monell

02/17/2011 03:45 PM

Cc: "Derek Matory"

From: Brad Jackson/R4/USEPA/US

To: "Carol Monell" <monell.carol@epa.gov>

Cc: "Derek Matory" <matory.derek@epa.gov>

FYI:

----- Original Message -----

From: "Gruber, Marianne B SAJ" [Marianne.B.Gruber@usace.army.mil]

Sent: 02/17/2011 03:21 PM EST

To: Brad Jackson

Cc: "Schultz, Michael A SAJ" <Michael.A.Schultz@usace.army.mil>

Subject: Area Wide EIS -- epa contact & phosphate news -- (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

BRAD -- Paul Gagliano is EPA's POC for the Area Wide EIS.

Below -- a current status of the EIS. See note from Bev.

Also, an previously posted article (Feb 8 2011) from an environmental group on the list-- noticed while cross checking current data.

Marianne Gruber

904-232-2930

-----Original Message-----

From: Lawrence, Beverlee A SAJ

Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 3:17 PM

To: Gruber, Marianne B SAJ

Subject: RE: phosphate news -- (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

Thanks for the info.

Good timing on your email - I was going to send you one. Weekly SigActs (proj info/status) were just posted; here is the latest on the AEIS:

RD & OC Phosphate Areawide EIS (John Fellows, Bob Barron, Leah Oberlin, Chuck Schnepel, Steve Sullivan, & Christina Storz). A kickoff meeting for the Areawide Environmental Impact Statement (AEIS) for phosphate mining was held between the third party contractor (CH2MHILL) and the Corps team at CH2MHILL's office in Tampa. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is a cooperating Federal agency and attended the meeting with multiple folks participating via phone and in person. Topics covered included: project goals, roles, responsibilities, scoping, and technical National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) items. The Notice of Intent (NOI) announcing the AEIS and public scoping meeting will be published in the Federal Register either 18 or 25 February, 2011. Public scoping meeting are scheduled for 23 March 2011 in



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Lakeland and 25 March 2011 in Punt Gorda.

Also, Paul Gagliano is EPA's POC for the AEIS. Your timing is good - the Federal Register is published on Fridays. So either tomorrow or next week the ball will start rolling....have a great day and weekend!

Bev Lawrence
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-----Original Message-----

From: Gruber, Marianne B SAJ
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 3:09 PM
To: Lawrence, Beverlee A SAJ
Subject: phosphate news -- (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

I am updating a data list for Brad, and came across this environmental groups website... thought the folks in SW may want to know.. if they don't already.

02/08/2011
Group files concerns to DEP on mine
Published By: Bradenton.com

MANATEE -- A local environmental protection organization has filed concerns with state agencies over a Manatee County phosphate mine.

Manasota-88 on Sunday faxed a six-page letter to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in response to Mosaic Co.'s request to extend its mining rights at Wingate Mine, located off State Road 64 East in Duette.

The Mosaic Co. on Feb. 1 filed a permit application with DEP seeking to add 765 acres to Wingate Mine for future mining activity when the current 3,028-acre tract it mines is depleted of phosphate rock.

"We're very concerned that what's being proposed is going to further degrade Johnson Creek," said Glenn Compton, chair of Manasota-88.

Johnson Creek is just south of the mine and enters Wingate Creek.

In the letter, Manasota-88 says it wants DEP officials to consider concerns it has about how expanded mining will impact the quality of water, air and crops in the area.

Mosaic officials, however, say the mining activity the company is proposing for the future won't threaten surrounding environments.

"We've been operating in the watershed for three decades and this permit application wouldn't make changes to the water quantity or water quality from the outfall at the mine," said Russell Schweiss, a spokesman for Mosaic.

Wingate Mine was permitted in 1975. Mosaic plans to start mining 597 acres of the 765-acre addition it is seeking.

Mosaic presented information about the future mining extension to the Myakka River Management Coordinating Council in January.

"Manasota-88 has representation on that council, but we did not receive any follow-up questions from them," Schweiss said.

Compton said Manasota-88 wants DEP to review its questions regarding the impacts to downstream water quality, the amount of flow discharged from the facility and the possibility of increased radiation levels.

"There's many unanswered questions, additional review is needed to ensure water quality standards are met," Compton said.

Dee Ann Miller, a spokeswoman for DEP, said the comments from Manasota-88 will be used in the department's evaluation of Mosaic's proposed activity.

DEP will take the next 30 days to evaluate the application and determine if the application is complete for further consideration or whether additional information is needed from either party, Miller said.

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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE